Intuited Geometries

The Art of Ken Schiano

As a painter formally trained as an architect, Ken's skills as an artist are largely self-taught. He tends to rely heavily on architectonic principles, especially in the honest use of materials and process. His practice therefore, has an unaffected quality. He is a staunch advocate of abstraction and is known for his intuitive sense of composition and structure. Together with an uncanny use of color and light, he creates powerful abstract presences.

"My work is uncompromisingly abstract, and despite external sources, my subject matter is derived solely from the act of painting. I mix my own colors and make the media I use from scratch --watercolor, pastel, a cold wax medium, matching them to the shape and strength of my hand. While it is not a conscious intent to extend the creative practice to include the actual manufacture of the material used, it's logical that I would be interested in their genesis and my paintings integrate such knowledge. In the process I hope my activities would also begin to suggest where the bounds between discipline and surrender lie."

In the last two years Ken has embarked on a project to reevaluate the relationship between a painting's image and the painting as a physical object displacing and altering space. This has led to a series of shaped paintings, in which the painted image and constructed object become inextricably linked.

For the second year, Ken was a selected finalist for the 2016 Adolph and Esther Gottlieb Foundation Individual Grant Program and was a semi-finalist for the 2015 Sondheim Art Prize. He was the recipient of the 19th Annual Peggy and T. Denton Miller Award for excellence in Contemporary Art (in any medium) at the Academy Art Museum, Easton, MD, in 2014. He has had a recent museum exhibit at the Academy Art Museum, Easton, MD and a solo show at the Carla Massoni Gallery, Chestertown, MD, and continues to be featured extensively in group shows there. He is currently represented by Carla Massoni in the DC area and the James Gallery in Pittsburgh, PA. He has had his work exhibited in NY, (MOMA), Atlanta (Momus Gallery), Portland (Danforth Gallery), Belfast (Frick Gallery), Bangor (Clark House Gallery, Arte Fino), Rockland (Carver Hill), and Blue Hill (Leighton Gallery). His work resides in both corporate and private collections including the University of Maine at Machias, ME, The Cooper Union, NY,NY, the American Board of Surgery, Philadelphia, PA, Connor, Strong and Buckelew, Philadelphia, PA, Wakefield Capital, Chevy Chase, MD, and SM Lighting Design, NY, NY. As an Assistant Professor, he has previously taught studio art and architectural design at the University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY and at IIT, Chicago, IL. He received his architecture degree at The Cooper Union, NY, NY.